

21ST CENTURY SPECTRUM
RESOURCE ASSURANCE ACT

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce, along with my colleagues, Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. DEAL, Mr. EHRLICH, and Mr. ROGAN, legislation preventing the Federal Communications Commission from imposing spectrum caps on future Commercial and Mobile Radio Services (CMRS) auctions.

Today, the commercial wireless industry is the most competitive sector of the U.S. telecommunications marketplace: 238 million Americans can now choose between 3 and 7 wireless providers; more than 87.9 million Americans can now choose from among 6 or more wireless providers; and 87.7 million Americans can choose among 5 wireless providers.

In 1994, FCC adopted the cap to prohibit a single entity's attributable interests in the licenses of broadband PCS, cellular, and Specialized Mobile Radio (SMR) services from cumulatively exceeding more than 45 MHz of spectrum within the same geographic area. The cap was to ensure multiple providers would be able to obtain spectrum in each market and thus facilitate development of competitive markets for wireless services.

Today, however, the current 45 MHz spectrum cap is beginning to impact innovation and competition in the wireless industry. The cap now works to limit competition by denying wireless providers access to open markets, thereby denying consumers the benefits that arise from additional competition, such as lower prices and innovative services.

Furthermore, wireless providers have limited room for advanced services such as data on their networks and as they plan for Third Generation (3G) services, which will include enhanced voice, video, Internet and other broadband capabilities, the lack of spectrum threatens the ability to expand current systems and entice new customers. Additionally, continuation of the spectrum cap will result in the continued lag of U.S. companies behind Europe and Japan in the deployment of wireless 3G technologies.

The legislation I am offering merely prevents the FCC from imposing the CMRS spectrum cap on spectrum auctioned after January 1, 2000. It does not repeal the current spectrum cap on CMRS spectrum, or lift the cap on spectrum that has already been auctioned. This legislation is a timely proposal to ensure that innovation and competition continue to drive the commercial wireless industry.

IN HONOR OF FRED LICK, JR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Fred Lick, Jr. Mr. Lick is being presented with an Alumni Lifetime Leadership Award by Cleveland State University. This is an award presented to alumni for exceptional achievements and leadership that have

brought both pride and recognition to the University and to the community.

Fred Lick earned his Juris Doctorate from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1961. Since his graduation, Mr. Lick has shown his leadership qualities in many fields and through diverse means.

First, Mr. Lick has shown his unselfishness by dedicating himself to the national defense for nearly two decades. He joined the U.S. Army, and served for eight years. After leaving the Army, Mr. Lick joined the Ohio Military Reserve. The OMR is where Mr. Lick displayed his leadership capabilities. He quickly rose through the ranks of the OMR, earning the titles of Major General, Commander of the OMR, and Commander of the Joint State Area Command. Throughout his service to his country, Mr. Lick remained passionate about education, this is evidenced by his graduation from the National Defense University, Industrial College of the Armed Forces; U.S. Marine Corps Command and State College; and the Justice Advocate General's School.

Mr. Lick's leadership has not been confined to simply military endeavors. Mr. Lick has served as the chairman, president and chief executive officer and currently serves as the chairman of the Central Reserve Life Corporation, now the Ceres Group.

Mr. Lick also has dedicated himself to Delta Theta Pi, the national legal fraternity, and Miami University. He has held regional and national positions with Delta Theta Pi, culminating in his appointment as the National Deputy Chancellor in 1977. At Miami University, Mr. Lick spent several years serving as a member of the board of trustees and has recently been elected as the board president.

In the 39 years since his graduation from Cleveland-Marshall, Mr. Lick has remained a positive influence on the College of Law. In this time Mr. Lick has served as the President of the Law Alumni Association, 1967–68, and has inaugurated the Annual Alumni Luncheon. This event now annually draws close to 1,000 attendees to honor colleagues for significant achievements in the legal community.

My fellow colleagues, let us recognize and congratulate Mr. Lick for his years of dedication and leadership.

SUPPORT FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S NATIONAL HAZARDOUS WASTE AND SUPERFUND OMBUDSMAN

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of providing additional funds to support the Environmental Protection Agency's National Hazardous Waste and Superfund Ombudsman. The Office of the Ombudsman has been instrumental in providing further investigation and access to information for the public on a number of complicated Superfund sites across the Nation.

There are many communities across the United States impacted by years of hazardous waste disposal. The very laws and agencies involved in cleaning up these very dangerous sites often become mired in legal tangles and bureaucratic inertia. The Office of the Om-

budsman has been an ally of citizens to further insure that public health and the environment remain at the forefront in clean up decisions at Superfund sites. The Ombudsman also plays an important role regarding oversight of the EPA, ensuring that harmful decisions are corrected and that information surrounding Superfund sites is available for the public.

In my district, the Office of the Ombudsman was useful in investigating the Shattuck Waste Disposal Site in Denver. The Ombudsman re-directed EPA's focus by fostering greater public participation in EPA's decision to allow radioactive waste to remain in an urban neighborhood. To better protect public health and the environment, I believe it is appropriate that the Office of the Ombudsman receive adequate funds to sustain their mission of advocating for substantive public involvement in EPA decisions.

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. ALBERT
LEE JOHNSON, SR.

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to my friend and nationally respected clergyman, Rev. Dr. Albert Lee (A.L.) Johnson, Sr. Reverend Johnson passed away after an extended illness. His is a loss felt by his family and congregation, the greater Kansas City community, and most certainly our nation.

Reverend Johnson was a community activist and civil rights advocate throughout his life. He fought for the common person and his influence was far reaching both inside and outside the Christian church community. Justice and equality for all fell within the realm of his spiritual responsibilities as well as his public and moral responsibilities. He traveled to numerous and varied places in the world and touched the lives of individuals in a remarkable way. Rev. Johnson, as President of the local Council for United Action, was on the front line in the battle against racial and social injustice. Although small in stature, he was a giant of a man whose actions led to positive social change. His leadership made a difference in fair employment, housing, and public accommodations. Justice and equality for all fell within the realm of his spiritual responsibilities as well as his public and moral responsibilities. He traveled to numerous and varied places in the world and touched the lives of individuals in a remarkable way.

His actions inspired greatness in those who serve the public. He was instrumental in the election of the first black mayor of Kansas City, the first black U.S. Congressman from the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri, and for me being the first woman to serve the Fifth Congressional District in the U.S. Congress. Rev. A.L. Johnson was a true friend who believed in me and counseled me. He could, in his quiet way, comment on an issue with just a few motivating words which resonated in my soul and encourage and inspire me to continue the tough fight for the people of the Fifth Congressional District and this great nation.

His family and congregation allowed him to follow his second calling, that of a public servant. Although holding no elected or appointed